



5-5-04

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: 71241

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : BERNINGER
Serial No : 10/736,031
Confirm. No. : 4162
Filed : December 15, 2003
For : METHOD AND DEVICE...
Art Unit : 3726
Examiner : N/A
Dated : May 4, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant requests that the Examiner further consider the references that have come to Applicant's attention from corresponding patent proceedings.

Attached please find a substitute for Form PTO-1449 together with the references cited in the European Search Report dated February 16, 2004 for the European application corresponding to this National Stage application. Where the cited reference is in a language not in English, an English abstract is enclosed to serve as a translation for the cited reference.

A copy of the European Search Report is enclosed for reference.

- U.S. Publication No. 2002/0138962 A1 has been cited in the European Search Report under Category X with regard to claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 12, 16 and 26 of the European Stage application corresponding to this National Stage application. The reference discloses a method and apparatus for simultaneously installing multiple component parts. This reference is in

English.

- DE 40 16 033 A1 has been cited in the European Search Report under Category X with regard to claims 13-15, 17-20 and 25 of the European Stage application corresponding to this National Stage application. The reference discloses an industrial robot handling parts and objects which has double jointed arms pivoting on main holder which itself rotates on a pedestal. No English translation of this reference is available to Applicant at this time. However, an English abstract is presented for this reference.

- JP 11267838 has been cited in the European Search Report under Category X with regard to claim 1 of the European Stage application corresponding to this National Stage application. The reference discloses a robot which carries out a welding automatically against a welding point of a piping and a piping related equipment at a narrow part of the piping periphery. No English translation of this reference is available to Applicant at this time. However, an English abstract is presented for this reference.

- EP 0 464 004 A1 has been cited in the European Search Report under Category A with regard to claims 3, 4, 27 and 28 of the European Stage application corresponding to this National Stage application. The reference discloses a station for assembling pressed steel metal structure with welding robots also usable periodically for checking the fixtures used in the station. The reference is in English.

- GB 2 221 659 A has been cited in the European Search Report under Category A with regard to claims 1 to 28 of the European Stage application corresponding to this National Stage application. The reference discloses a plurality of identical assembling apparatus on which are

set a plurality of vehicle parts, are attached in turn to a robot arm for movement by operation of a robot to an assembling site. This reference is in English.

- GB 2 327 913 a has been cited in the European Search Report under Category A with regard to claims 1 to 12 of the European Stage application corresponding to this National Stage application. The reference discloses a vehicle body constructed from metal roof side and floor fabricated panels. This reference is also in English.

- A non-patent literature document titled A Two-armed Intelligent Robot Assembles Mini Robots Automatically has been cited in the European Search Report under Category X with regard to claims 1, 3, 4, 7-15 and 17-28 of the European Stage application corresponding to this National Stage application. The reference discloses an automated assembly system where a newly developed two armed intelligent robot assemblies a maximum of 500 units of mini robots a month that is to say that robot builds robot literally. This reference is in English.

- A non-patent literature document titled Development of Multi-Arm Robots for Automobile Assembly has been cited in the European Search Report under Category A with regard to claims 13 to 28 of the European Stage application corresponding to this National Stage application. The reference discloses a numerous issue which remains to be solved in improving the efficiency of the complex assembly processes existing in the automobile chassis and drive train system unit plans due to there being labor intensive and the reliance on the dexterity of human operators. This reference is in English.

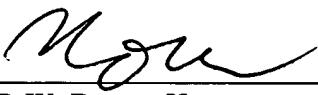
Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,

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And,

By: 

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JJM/DWK:jms

71241.11

Enclosed: PTO-1449 Form
Copy of European Search Report
Associate Power of Attorney/Appointment of Agent
(7) References

DATED: May 4, 2004
SCARBOROUGH STATION
SCARBOROUGH, NEW YORK 10510-0827
(914) 941-5600

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BY: John James McGlew DATE: May 4, 2004



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

ANSWER SHEET
(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

of

<i>Complete if Known</i>	
Application Number	10/736,031
Filing Date	Dec. 15, 2003
First Named Inventor	BERNINGER
Art Unit	3726
Examiner Name	N/A
Attorney Docket Number	71241

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE 40 16 033 A1	21-11-1991	Robert Bosch GmbH		
		JP 11267838	05-10-1999	Toshiba Eng Co Ltd.		
		EP 0 464 004 A1	02-01-1992	Comau S.p.A.		
		GB 2 221 659 A	14-02-1990	Honda Motor Co Ltd.	1	
		GB 2 327 913 A	10-02-1999	Unova UK Ltd.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10 / 736, 031
				Filing Date	Dec. 15, 2003
				First Named Inventor	BERNINGER
				Art Unit	3726
				Examiner Name	N / A
Sheet		of		Attorney Docket Number	71241

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		T ²
		A Two-armed Intelligent Robot Assembles Mini Robots Automatically (Fanuc Ltd)		
		Development of Multi-Arm Robots for Automobile Assembly (Toyota Motor Corporation)		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.
This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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